

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1763

To amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to health professional shortage areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 1993

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. THOMAS of Wyoming, Mr. SLATTERY, Mr. LANCASTER, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. GUNDERSON, and Ms. SNOWE) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to health professional shortage areas.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Health Professional
5 Shortage Area Amendments of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION IN CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION AS**
2 **HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA.**

3 (a) NUMBER OF ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS.—Section
4 332(b)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
5 245e(b)(2)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
7 graph (C);

8 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
9 paragraph (D) and inserting “, and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following subpara-
11 graph:

12 “(E) 20 percent or more of the population
13 being 65 years of age or older.”.

14 (b) RELEVANCE OF TRAVEL TIMES WITHIN FRON-
15 TIER AREAS.—Section 332(a) of the Public Health Service
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 245e(a)) is amended by adding at the end
17 the following new paragraph:

18 “(4) With respect to meeting the criteria under
19 paragraph (1)(A) for an area to be designated as a
20 health professional shortage area, the Secretary
21 shall, in the case of a frontier area, make the deter-
22 mination of whether the frontier area is a rational
23 area for the delivery of health services without re-
24 gard to—

25 “(A) the travel time between population
26 centers in the frontier area; or

1 “(B) the travel time to contiguous area re-
2 sources in the frontier area.”.

3 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
4 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1993, or upon
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs
6 later.

7 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF ADDITIONAL PAYMENT UNDER MED-**
8 **ICARE FOR PHYSICIANS’ SERVICES FUR-**
9 **NISHED IN FORMER SHORTAGE AREAS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(m) of the Social Se-
11 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(m)) is amended by striking
12 “area,” and inserting “area (or, in the case of an area
13 for which the designation as a health professional shortage
14 area under such section is withdrawn, in the case of physi-
15 cians’ services furnished to such an individual during the
16 3-year period beginning on the effective date of the with-
17 drawal of such designation),”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
19 subsection (a) shall apply to physicians’ services furnished
20 in an area for which the designation as a health profes-
21 sional shortage area under section 332(a)(1)(A) of the
22 Public Health Service Act is withdrawn on or after
23 January 1, 1994.

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